

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 1003 - SB 1041**

April 14, 2003

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Provides that, in regards to the workers compensation program, only mental injuries proximately caused by a compensable physical injury will be eligible for benefits.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease State Expenditures - Exceeds \$200,000/Claims Award Fund**

**Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000**

Estimate assumes a decrease in expenditures for workers' compensation claims for employees of state and local governments.

Based on a review of claims filed in the past five years by state employees for mental injuries for which there was no companion physical injury, the state received an average of six claims per year and denied an average of four4 claims per year, based on defenses available under current law. The state paid an average of \$103,250 per claim for medical and indemnity benefits per year on such approved claims. This bill, if enacted, would allow for denial of all such claims and would result in a decrease in expenditures.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director